

MEMO

To the Faculty and Staff of Mississippi State University

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NASA recognizes pair for aircraft engine research

Two Mississippi State scientists are receiving national recognition from NASA for devising computer software that is saving aircraft engine manufacturers millions of dollars in new engine developments.

Professors Jenping Chen and J. Mark Janus of the ERC/Computational Simulation and Design Center won NASA's 2004 Software of the Year Award in their research category while collaborating with the national space agency's Glenn Research Center.



Janus

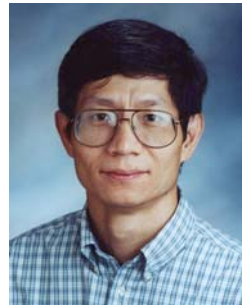
They also received \$25,000 for finishing second overall in competition with other category winners representing NASA's Ames, Langley, Marshall, and Stennis research centers, and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Overall co-winners

were TetrUSS/Langley and Science Activity Planner/National Aeronautics and Space Administration Jet Propulsion Lab, neither of which had university collaboration.

"Each center has a different mission," explained Dr. David Marcum, the mechanical engineering professor who directs the MSU SimCenter.

"Drs. Chen and Janus won their category, then finished as runner-up to the best in show.

"Each award is a national award since all centers use researchers from around the country," added Marcum, noting the SimCenter also conducts different projects with the Glenn, Langley, Marshall, and Stennis centers.



Chen

Operating at the ERC (formerly known as the Engineering Research Center), the SimCenter is a research division of the Bagley College of Engineering.

Chen and Janus have been working in collaboration with NASA and private industry over the past 18 years on turbomachinery simulation software. Their research currently is supported under a five-year, \$1.5 million contract from NASA's Glenn center; nearly \$500,000 from the Army Research Laboratory; and a Department of Defense Challenge Project program for high performance computing resources.

The Chen-led MSU research team was recognized by NASA in the recent national competition for developing TURBO-AE (Turbomachinery Aeroelastic Analysis Code), which is computer software used to simulate the highly complicated flowfield within an aircraft jet engine. Chen is an associate research professor of computational simulation and design, while Janus is an associate professor of aerospace engineering.

Charles E. "Charlie" Weatherly of Starkville (c) is Mississippi State's 2005 National Alumnus of the Year. The former longtime MSU Alumni Association executive director received the prestigious honor during the association's annual campus leadership conference. The 1959 industrial management graduate continues to serve on the alumni foundation board of directors. President Charles Lee (l) and national alumni president Keith Winfield, also of Starkville, presented the award.





Floral expo will highlight latest in prom fashions

In advance of the spring prom season, a student group is sponsoring a public showcase of the latest in formal floral arrangements and attire.

Organized by the university's American Institute of Floral Designers student chapter, "Prom Expo 2005" will begin at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 24 in the Butler-Williams Building. Admission is \$5 and door prizes will be awarded.

"We're going to have a fun show and the audience will get to see some great ideas for prom flowers, dresses and hairstyles," said SAIFD adviser Jim DelPrince. "They're all unique ideas the audience can't see anywhere else."

The associate professor of plant and soil sciences said majors in the retail floristry management program will design arrangements for both wear and carry. Students from Starkville High School and Starkville Academy will model the latest formal wear and hairstyles.

In addition to MSU and community participants, sessions will be led by Mary Hendricks of Eupora, owner of Classy Closet, and Brandy Sizemore of West Point's The Hair Cuttery.

DelPrince said the admission charge will be used to assist the SAIFD chapter with expenses for the Southern American Institute of Floral Designers Competition in March and National American Institute of Floral Designers Competition this summer.

For more information, telephone DelPrince at 325-1965.

Looking for a job? Look online!

View and apply for current MSU positions (executive, faculty, professional, and support staff) on the Human Resources Management Online Employment System at www.jobs.msstate.edu. For more information, telephone HRM at 325-3713, e-mail employment@hrm.msstate.edu or visit 150 McArthur Hall.



Fred Carl Jr. of Greenwood (second from right) was honored recently with the official dedication of the Carl Small Town Center in the College of Architecture, Art and Design. Carl, founder of the Viking Range Corp., is a major benefactor of the college and other MSU programs. Also participating were (from left) center director Kimberly Brown, architecture Dean James West, Carl's wife Margaret, and President Charles Lee.

Testing system to plot bus runs via computers, cell phones

Scientists and campus transportation managers are planning to launch a wireless bus-tracking system that allows riders to plot university routes and pinpoint passenger pick-up times via computers and cellular phones.

The Web-based Bully's Bus Tracker will combine the latest developments in automotive telematics—computers and telecommunications—with Global Positioning System technology to create a next-generation, intelligent transportation network.

"In the future, the system will feature an automated voice dial-up capability," predicted the project's principal investigator, Georgios Lazarou. "Students will be able to access the system by laptop or cell phone, check the location of a bus, ask the estimated arrival time at a particular stop, and get a voice response in real time."

The peer-to-peer communications technology, developed by Lazarou and fellow researchers at MSU's Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems, is being pilot-tested on a few campus buses. A demonstration is available at www.bullybus.msstate.edu.

"A prototype is being deployed to determine how feasible, beneficial, cost-effective, and desirable such a system would be," said Mike Rackley, head of MSU's Office of Information Technology Services, which is providing technical support.

Developing the project within the Human and Systems Engineering thrust at CAVS are Lazarou; senior software engineer Joe Picone; HSE thrust leader Zach Rowland; Ron Lewis, a CAVS research associate who developed the Web application and software infrastructure; and electrical and computer engineering graduate student Will Jenkins, the principal hardware designer.



14 grants awarded to graduate faculty members

Eighteen faculty members were awarded Recruitment Assistance Grants from the Office of Graduate Studies.

Nearly \$7,000 in funding will aid faculty in master's and doctoral degree programs in recruiting graduate students. The program, begun in 1991, is funded by an annual allocation from the graduate application fees paid by out-of-state and international applicants.

"The program has worked extremely well for us in that the graduate student enrollment has moderately increased during this period," said Dr. William Person, director of graduate studies. "The funds allow for travel or the development of paper or computer literature for graduate student recruitment." He added that he was

"impressed with the overall quality of the recruitment initiatives and the degree to which graduate faculty continue to be involved in attracting good students to our graduate programs."

Grant recipients for 2004-05 include: Drs. Lora Ballweber, Russell Carr and Linda Pote, veterinary medicine; Dr. Sylvia Byrd, food science, nutrition and health promotion; Dr. Ed Clynch, political science; Dr. Susan Diehl, forest products; Drs. Julia Hodges and Edward Allen, computer science and engineering; Dr. Kevin Knudson, mathematics and statistics; Dr. Adrienne Minerick, chemical engineering; Drs. Mark A. Novotny and David Monts, physics and astronomy; Dr. David Ridpath, kinesiology; Dr. Peter Ryan,

animal and dairy sciences; Dr. Barbara Spencer, graduate studies in business; Dr. William Stuart, forest resources; Dr. Xiaohe Xu, sociology and social work; and Dr. Nicolas Younan, electrical and computer engineering.

Service requests available online

A new procedure for obtaining some campus services now is available to faculty and staff through Web access.

To request service from Campus Landscaping, Custodial Services or Physical Plant, search for "facilities" in the search block on the main MSU Web page, www.msstate.edu. Next, click on Physical Plant, and then Request for Services (text). Fill out the form and click the "submit" icon.

Employees are invited to test the procedure, as long as they write "this is a test" in the description of work block.

For more information, telephone 325-2052.

Memo is published for the faculty and staff of Mississippi State University by the Office of University Relations. It is published weekly during the fall and

spring semesters and twice a month during the summer. It also is available on the Web at msuinfo.ur.msstate.edu/msu_memo/. Editorial material should be sent to Kay Fike Jones, Mail Stop 9512, or via e-mail to jonesk@ur.msstate.edu.

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The MSU Golf Course now features a fairway sprinkler system donated by the Bloomington, Minn.-based Toro Co., a longtime supporter of the university's golf and sports turf management program. Phillip Carter (kneeling), Kevin Boutwell (standing) and Kizer Clemer, all majors in the program, recently spent some time double-checking operations of the system's satellite controllers.

Mississippi State University complies with all applicable laws regarding affirmative action and equal opportunity in all its activities and programs and does not discriminate against anyone protected by law because of age, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex, handicap, or status as a veteran or disabled veteran.



Calendar of Events



Send your calendar items to

Kay Fike Jones, 102 George Hall; Mail Stop 9512; FAX 325-7455; e-mail jonesk@ur.msstate.edu at least **TWO WEEKS** in advance. For updates, check www.msstate.edu and click on "Calendar of Events."

To list calendar events online, access www.ur.msstate.edu/news/today.asp and follow the instructions.

Ongoing Events

Jim Kuether's photo exhibit, "MSInterpretations: Images of Mississippi," and documentation photography of David Perkes, through March 25, College of Architecture, Art and Design Gallery, Giles Hall. Also, "Stories of the Community: Self-Taught Art from the Hill Collection," through March 25 at the Department of Art Gallery, McComas Hall. 325-2970.

February

21

"Jeff Corwin Experience," Humphrey Coliseum, 7 p.m. 323-8363.

22

Lycium Series: "Camerata Nordica" concert, Colvard Union ballroom, 7:30 p.m. 325-4201.

Jonathan Odell discusses his novel, "The View from Delphi," Bettersworth Auditorium, Giles Hall, 6:30 p.m.

23

ITS workshops: "Microsoft PowerPoint 2003 II," 8:30 a.m.-noon; "BANNER: Leave Entry," 8:30 a.m.-noon, 10 McArthur Hall. www.its.msstate.edu/Information/Workshops/.

23-25

Play: "A Staged Reading of Fragments" by Edward Albee, \$5 general admission,

McComas Hall lab theater, 7:30 p.m. Recommended for mature audiences. 325-3203.

24

ITS workshop: "Introduction to Macromedia Dreamweaver," 10 McArthur Hall, 8:30 a.m.-noon. www.its.msstate.edu/Information/Workshops/.

26

MSU vs. Mississippi, men's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 6 p.m.

27

MSU vs. Auburn, women's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 2 p.m.

March

1-3

Senior Week activities for graduating seniors sponsored by the Office of Student Life : March 1, workshop, "Financial Planning," Colvard Union Dawg House, 5 p.m., followed by MSU vs. Arkansas men's basketball on the big-screen TV at 6 p.m.; March 2, Wellness Fair, Colvard Union second-floor lobby, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., and Alumni Panel Discussion, Union small auditorium, 6 p.m.; March 3, "Building a Successful Wardrobe," Union small auditorium, 4 p.m., and workshop, "Dinner Etiquette," Colvard Union ballroom, 5:30 p.m., \$10 ticket required and available at the Career Center, 300 Montgomery Hall. 325-3344.

4

WMSV Blues Night at Rick's Cafe, Highway 182: Jesse Robinson takes the stage at 8:30 p.m. followed by the Bar-B-Que Boys at 10:30 p.m. No smoking in the concert room; admission is \$7 at the door. 325-8481.

5

MSU vs. Alabama, men's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 1 p.m.

8

Workshop: "SciFinder Scholar: Chemistry and More!" ELI/Giles electronic class-

rooms, Mitchell Memorial Library, 3 p.m. Registration required. Deborah Lee, 325-0810 or dlee@library.msstate.edu.

9

Workshop: "Developing a Literature Review," ELI/Giles electronic classrooms, Mitchell Memorial Library, 2 p.m. Registration required. Brad Brazzeale, 325-3834 or bbrazzeal@library.msstate.edu.

11

Workshop: "Copyright or Copywrong?" ELI/Giles electronic classrooms, Mitchell Memorial Library, 1 p.m. Registration required. Brad Brazzeale, 325-3834 or bbrazzeal@library.msstate.edu.

14-18

Spring Break.

22

Workshop: "Who's Citing You?" ELI/Giles electronic classrooms, Mitchell Memorial Library, 2 p.m. Registration required. Deborah Lee, 325-0810 or dlee@library.msstate.edu.

24

Workshop: "EndNote 101," ELI/Giles electronic classrooms, Mitchell Memorial Library, 3 p.m. Registration required. Deborah Lee, 325-0810 or dlee@library.msstate.edu.

25

University closed for holiday.

Flex participants must file claims by March deadline

All Flexible Spending Account participants must send 2004 Mediflex and Careflex claims to the third party administrator on or before March 1.

Forms should be mailed to Glynn Griffing & Associates, P.O. Box 16509, Jackson, MS 39236-6509.

For more information, telephone GGA at (800) 326-4885, or the MSU Department of Human Resources Management at 325-3713.